

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A ~~maintenance~~ firmware updating method, for use in ~~a computer system~~ an information processing apparatus having a remote management subsystem and an information processing apparatus provided with ~~a storage storing a firmware and~~ a communications device for communicating ~~via a network~~ with said ~~a remote management subsystem~~ server, for ~~maintaining~~ updating the firmware for said information processing apparatus, comprising the steps of:

A ~~instructing from said remote management subsystem to said information processing apparatus to set said communications device as a boot device to obtain a program when said information processing apparatus is booted;~~

setting said communications device as ~~the boot~~ a boot device by said information processing apparatus according to said ~~instruction~~ an instruction from said remote management server;

~~instructing a system reset from said remote management subsystem to said information processing apparatus;~~

resetting said information processing apparatus in system reset according to ~~the system~~ a system reset instruction from said remote management server under an environment of an operating system of said information processing system

operating; and

~~starting the execution of a maintenance program by acquiring said maintenance program from said remote management subsystem by booting said information processing apparatus with said~~ by said ~~communications device used as the boot device to boot the system, thereby to update said firmware stored in said storage via said network;~~

setting said storage as a boot device thereby to control "off" a power supply of said information processing apparatus in response to a request from said remote management server;

controlling "on" said power supply in response to another request from said remote management server; and

reading and executing said firmware updated in said storage of said information processing apparatus.

2. (currently amended) A ~~maintenance~~ firmware updating method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ a maintenance program is acquired from said remote management subsystem in said execution starting step and is a program for updating firmware possessed by said information processing apparatus.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) A ~~maintenance~~ firmware updating method according

to claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

acquiring information about the firmware from said information processing apparatus, which has the information about the firmware, by said remote management subsystem; and

judging a program to be sent to said information processing apparatus according to the information about the firmware.

5. (currently amended) A maintenance-firmware updating method according to claim 1, wherein said execution starting step includes a step to check that ~~the~~ an obtained maintenance program is an appropriate program.

6. (currently amended) A firmware updating maintenance method according to claim 5, wherein said checking step includes a step of obtaining a certification file corresponding to said a maintenance program from said remote management subsystem and a step of inspecting said maintenance program according to said certification file.


7. (currently amended) A firmware updating maintenance method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

acquiring identification information, which is used to obtain said a maintenance program by said information processing apparatus, by said remote management subsystem;

sending a request to obtain a pseudo maintenance program by said identification information; and

checking the presence or not of a reply to the request to obtain the pseudo maintenance program.

8. (currently amended) A ~~maintenance~~firmware updating method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

 ~~registering previously~~previously registering identification information of an information processing apparatus subjected to maintenance into said remote management subsystem;

receiving input of identification information for specifying said information processing apparatus prior to the instruction to set said boot device; and

judging whether the received identification information is included in the registered identification information.

9. (currently amended) A ~~maintenance~~firmware updating method according to claim 1, wherein the setting of said boot device and said reset are performed by a management agent which operates on said information processing apparatus.

10. (currently amended) A firmware updating~~maintenance~~ method according to claim 9, wherein said boot device is set by said management agent which calls an

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A I/O routine of the firmware in an environment where an operating system of said information processing apparatus is operating.

11. (new) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a communications device which is to be connected with a server;

a storage device for storing therein a firmware;

a setting component setting one of said communications device and said storage as a boot device in response to a request from said server;

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A a power controller controlled by a first power supply which is separate from a second power supply of said information processing apparatus; and

A a system reset component for resetting said information processing apparatus in system reset according to a request from said remote management server under an environment of an operating system of said information processing apparatus operating;

wherein said power controller controls "off" and "on" said information processing apparatus according to a request from said server;


wherein said communications device obtains a program from said server after resetting said information processing apparatus; and

wherein said information processing apparatus updates said firmware by use of said program, stores said firmware updated by said information processing apparatus in said storage, sets said storage as a boot device, and controls "on" said

power controller according to a request from said server to execute said firmware by use of said storage.

12. (new) A firmware updating method according to claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

acquiring information about the firmware from said information processing apparatus, which has the information about the firmware, by said remote management subsystem; and

 judging a program to be sent to said information processing apparatus according to the information about the firmware.

13. (new) A firmware updating method according to claim 11, wherein said execution starting step includes a step to check that an obtained maintenance program is an appropriate program.

14. (new) A system comprising:

an information processing apparatus; and

a server;

wherein said information processing apparatus comprises:

a communications device which is to be connected with said server via a network;

a storage for storing therein a firmware;

a system reset component for resetting said information processing apparatus in system reset according to a request from said server under an environment of an operating system of said information processing apparatus operating;

a setting component setting one of said communications device and said storage as a boot device in response to a request from said server; and

a power controller controlled by a first power supply which is separate from a second power supply of said information processing apparatus;

wherein said communications device obtains a program from said server after resetting said information processing apparatus;

wherein said information processing apparatus updates said firmware by use of said program, stores said firmware updated by said information processing apparatus in said storage, sets said storage as a boot device, and controls "on" said power controller according to a request from said server to execute said firmware updated by said information processing apparatus by use of said storage;

wherein said server comprises:

a boot controller for setting one of said communications device and said storage as a boot device, instructing to reset said information processing apparatus, and

a remote controller instructing said power controller to control "off" and "on" said information processing apparatus.

15. (new) A firmware updating method according to claim 14, further

comprising the steps of:

acquiring information about the firmware from said information processing apparatus, which has the information about the firmware, by said remote management subsystem; and

judging a program to be sent to said information processing apparatus according to the information about the firmware.

16. (new) A firmware updating method according to claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

acquiring identification information, which is used to obtain a maintenance program by said information processing apparatus, by said remote management subsystem;

sending a request to obtain a pseudo maintenance program by said identification information; and

checking the presence or not of a reply to the request to obtain the pseudo maintenance program.

17. (new) A firmware updating method according to claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

previously registering identification information of an information processing apparatus subjected to maintenance into said remote management subsystem;

receiving input of identification information for specifying said information

processing apparatus prior to the instruction to set said boot device; and

judging whether the received identification information is included in the
registered identification information.
